

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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O 171500Z APR 74 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4353
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB
AMCONSUL TRIESTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5335

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO
SUBJECT: TRIESTE ZONE B DISPUTE

REF: ROME 5311

1. AFTER CONSIDERATION AT HIGHEST LEVEL FOREIGN MINISTRY DECIDED TO RELEASE THE NOTE HANDED TO PAVICEVIC APRIL 16 "AS THE TEXTS OF THE NOTES RECIPROCALLY EXCHANGED BETWEEN (THE ITALIAN AND YUGOSLAV MINISTRIES) HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE YUGOSLAV SIDE". FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ALSO REPORTED THAT "INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION" CONCERNING TITO'S SARAJEVO SPEECH REQUESTED (ORALLY) FROM PAVICEVIC.

2. ITALIAN NOTE IS A DRAFTING TOUR DE FORCE IN THAT IT MANAGES TO ADDRESS SUBJECT CLEARLY WITH ONLY A SINGLE (UNAVOIDABLE) USE OF THE PHRASE "ZONE B". TRANSLATION OF FULL TEXT FOLLOWS BY SEPTTEL.

3. NOTE REFERS TO YUGOSLAV MARCH 30 NOTE, AND ADDRESSES SUBJECT OF ITALO-YUGOSLAV BOUNDARY SETTING FORTH ITALIAN POSITION THAT 1947 PEACE

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TREATY ESTABLISHED "STATE FRONTIER" (FRONTIERA DE STATO) BETWEEN

MONTE FORNO AND DOSSO GIULIO (NORTH OF TRIESTE AREA), AND FROM DOSSO GIULIO AND TO MONTE GOLI BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE FREE TERRITORY OF TRIESTE (THEN TO BE ESTABLISHED). ON THE OTHER HAND, LONDON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, ITALIAN NOTE CONTINUES, SPEAKS ONLY OF A "LINE OF DEMARCATION" BETWEEN ZONE A AND ZONE B FROM MONTE GOLI TO THE SEA. THIS, SAYS NOTE, REFUTES YUGOSLAV CLAIM (IN MARCH 30 NOTE) THAT THE ITALO-YUGOSLAV BOUNDARY IS ONE CONTINUOUS STATE FRONTIER.

4. ITALIAN NOTE THEN TURNS TO STATUS OF ZONE A, RECALLING THAT LONDON MEMORANDUM RESTORED ZONE A TO ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION, BUT AS SOVEREIGNTY HAD NEVER PASSED TO THE FREE TERRITORY, ITALIAN SOVEREIGNTY WAS NEVER INTERRUPTED. NOTE FAILS TO UNDERSTAND, THEREFORE, THE YUGOSLAVS' "INOPPORTUNE REFERENCE TO A REOPENING OF THE QUESTION OF TRIESTE".

5. NOTE CLAIMS ABOVE ILLUSTRATIONS SHOW THAT GOI POSITION IS IN FULL ACCORD, THEREFORE, WITH PEACE TREATY

AND LONDON MEMORANDUM.

6. NOTE SAYS ITALIANS HAVE ALWAYS AND WILL ALWAYS RESPECT TERRITORIAL LIMITS ESTABLISHED BY TREATY AND MEMORANDUM, AND WITH REGARD TO THE SAME THE GOI HAS NOT INTENDED AND DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE ANY UNILATERAL INITIATIVES. THE NOTE CALLS ON YUGOSLAVS SIMILARLY TO REFRAIN FROM UNILATERAL ACTIONS, SUCH AS THE RECENT CHANGE OF THE MARKING OF THE DEMARCATION LINE.

7. NOTE THEN REFERS TO THE MARCH 21, 1974 STATEMENT OF PRIME MINISTER RUMOR IN PARLIAMENT (ROME 4049) THAT TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF YUGOSLAVIA NOT IN DISCUSSION. "WHATEVER THE ITALIAN LEGAL POINT OF VIEW WITH REGARD TO THE TITLE UNDERLYING THE ADMINISTRATION BY THE GOY OF THE ZONE SOUTH OF THE DEMARCATION LINE FIXED BY THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, THE GOI DOES NOT INTEND IN FACT TO CONTEST THE POWERS THE YUGOSLAV FSR IS ENTITLED TO EXERCISE ..." AND THE GOI INTENDS TO RESPECT THE LINE OF DEMARCATION TO THE SAME EXTENT IT RESPECTS THE STATE FRONTIERS.

8. THE NOTE CONCLUDES BY FINDING "OUT OF PLACE" ANY INSINUATION OF ITALIAN TERRITORIAL CLAIMS WITH REGARD TO YUGOSLAVIA, AND "INAD-
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MISSABLE" THE HARDLY COURTEOUS LANGUAGE USED IN CERTAIN SENTENCES OF THE YUGOSLAV NOTE OF MARCH 30. BEAUDRY

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